

SNOW REMOVAL OPERATIONS

November, 2009

To All Residents of Hampton:

The Department of Public Works would like to present to the residents of Hampton the following information in order to help prepare for winter snow and ice control operations. We hope this information is helpful and will assist you in understanding our program.

The primary goal of the Department of Public Works during a winter storm is to remove snow and ice from town streets as rapidly as possible. Safety and mobility for the residents of our community is our overriding goal. Snow and ice operations in Hampton are performed by town personnel. Operations are planned based on a variety of factors including temperature, time of day, traffic conditions, rate of snowfall, the height of tides where applicable and the weather forecast. Therefore, not all storms are addressed in the same manner. We evaluate all of the available information and direct our operations based on our analysis and with public safety as our number one criteria. Protecting our public infrastructure, including roads, drainage systems and other public assets is also a high priority in determining the allocation of resources during a winter storm.

We understand that many times residents may have questions regarding the assignment of plows during a storm. We respectfully request that any inquiries be made of the Department of Public Works after the winter storm has subsided. During any winter storm, we must place our priority on assigning all available personnel to snow and ice operations. After a storm, we will do our best to respond to you in a timely fashion.

To assist residents in planning for winter weather, we suggest that the following precautions be taken:

1. Please check your vehicle and make sure it is prepared for winter weather. Check all tires, wiper blades, defroster, and fluids and keep a small amount of sand and a scraper in your vehicle.
2. When driving in a winter storm, please reduce your speed and beware of icing conditions and any snow and ice operations. Please do not try and pass any vehicle engaged in snow and ice operations. Remember that speed limits are posted for ideal driving conditions. In a winter storm drivers should proceed at speeds well below the posted speed limit.
3. Hampton is a large area with approximately one hundred twenty (120) miles of roadway for plow operators to cover. Please allow sufficient time for the town's snow and ice operations to complete our tasks and only travel during a winter storm when absolutely necessary.
4. In the event of a snowstorm requiring plowing, as deemed necessary by the Director of Public Works, or his designee, the Chief of Police shall call a "Snow Emergency Parking Ban". The Chief of Police shall contact two (2) radio stations to notify the Public that such a ban exists, and shall specify the "start time" of the snow emergency parking ban and shall estimate an "end time" when the snow emergency parking ban will be called off. The Chief of Police shall also make the Police Dispatcher(s) aware of the details of the snow emergency parking ban so that they may inform anyone who might inquire. It shall be unlawful for any person having the custody or control of any vehicle to place, to park, or cause the same to be parked, whether occupied or not, to park at any municipal parking lot; or to park at any designated "All Day/Overnight Parking" and or "Leased Parking Only" parking space(s) to park in any "Accessible Parking Space" or to park in any "Access Aisle" within a municipally owned or maintained

parking lot; or to park on any “way” in the Town of Hampton during a “Snow Emergency Parking Ban” that shall interfere with the snow removal from the said places during a Snow Emergency. When deemed necessary the Chief of Police, or his designee, and/or the Public Works Director, or his designee shall order any such vehicle towed and stored at the owner’s expense. (Per Town Ordinances Chapter 3, Article 5, Section 3 as adopted by the Board of Selectmen on May 18, 2009) \$100. per offense

5. Shoveling or plowing snow from driveways into town streets (including pushing across the street) is not only illegal but can also cause serious traffic hazards. Please remove snow from your driveways in a manner that is compliant with the law and which is respectful of your fellow residents.
6. Please do not pile snow on sidewalks. It makes it very hard on the removal equipment and jeopardizes children walking to school safely! Please use extreme care when walking on uncleared sidewalks – do not walk in the street.
7. Mailboxes installed in a town right-of-way are placed at the owner's risk.
8. The Department of Public Works will clear “Emergency Lanes” (This means a Way that has been designated as an “Emergency Lane” under RSA 231-59-a for the limited purpose only, of enabling the Town of Hampton to plow snow from said Way) between the dates of November 15th each year to March 15th of the following year.
9. Keep basketball devices at least ten (10) feet from the edge of pavement and do not park cars in driveway within ten (10) feet of the edge of pavement. Do not allow children to build and occupy “snow forts” and similar creations within ten (10) feet of the edge of pavement.
10. The town has a winter parking ban. Parking of vehicles on Hampton's streets is prohibited between 1:00 AM and 7:00 AM from November 15th to March 15th during which time no operator shall leave an unattended vehicle on any street, except in case of an emergency or any time during a declared snow emergency. Any vehicle parking in violation will be moved at the expense of the operator or owner and by or under the direction of a police officer of the Town of Hampton.
11. In the case of a plowing emergency which requires the immediate attention of the Department of Public Works during a winter storm, please call the Hampton Police Department at (603) 929-4444. The Hampton Police Department is operational twenty-four hours per day and will be able to contact the appropriate Department of Public Works personnel during a storm.

We hope this information is helpful and will assist in making the winter season a safe and enjoyable one for all of us. We appreciate the cooperation we have received from residents in the past and we look forward to providing you with timely and responsive service.

Thanking you in advance for your cooperation

John W. Price
Director of Public Works